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B. F. MESSICK

1905

HARRY MESSICK

## SPRING CATALOGUE

OF

# Choice Strawberry Plants



Three Quarts of Parsons Beauty Strawberries—See Description.

Grown and For Sale by

**B. F. MESSICK & SON,**

ALLEN, MARYLAND.

White & White, Publishers, Salisbury, Md.

# To Our Friends And Patrons.

It is a custom with all men and firms who are advertising to give a decided stress upon their individual stock, and we reckon it is expected by the trade, some claiming theirs to be better than others and all claiming theirs to equal any on the market. This is natural and a possible truth while it may not work out the same with you as in the Strawberry plant or berry business you have found a difference in the growing of varieties. Some varieties will grow with half a chance and while others will not with a chance and a half, however you are the witness, jury and judge. You select your varieties, cultivate them and then pass your opinion which may be for or against the nurserymen and in anticipating your desire to know something of the stock that we send out we have copied a few unsolicited comments upon the arrival of our plants. They may be from your neighbor or they may be from parties you know nothing at all about but the original is on file and we are simply quoting them.

We have now as in the past a very fine lot of plants to be dug this spring. While the season was very much against the making of plants we have more than an ordinary supply while if our trade of '05 increases as our '04 did over '03 we will make a big hole in our stock.

Our whole time is personally devoted to this work and we feel capable of handling the largest orders in such a manner that will be pleasing and satisfactory to the trade.

Plants can be shipped within a day or so on receipt of order but it is not the surest plan of getting plants to put off ordering until you need them as the time is short for digging plants and if orders are sent early it gives the nurserymen a far better advantage.

We will be pleased to have you look over our list with descriptions which are from personal observation and cultivation and if any information is desired other than herein given we will be pleased to render same upon request as we are always pleased to please those who are pleased by being pleased.

Very Respectfully Yours,

**B. F. MESSICK & SON, Allen, Md.**

## *Number of Plants Required to Set An Acre of Ground at a Given Distance.*

24 in. rows, set 12 in. apart in row,	21,780	42 in. rows, set 18 in. apart in row,	8,297
30- " " 12 " "	17,424	48- " " 18 " "	7,260
36- " " 12 " "	14,520	24- " " 24 " "	10,890
42- " " 12 " "	2,446	30- " " 24 " "	8,712
48 " " 12 " "	10,890	36- " " 24 " "	7,260
24- " " 15 " "	17,424	42- " " 24 " "	6,223
30- " " 15 " "	13,939	48- " " 24 " "	5,445
36 " " 15 " "	11,616	24- " " 30 " "	8,712
42- " " 15 " "	9,953	30- " " 30 " "	6,969
48 " " 15 " "	8,712	36- " " 30 " "	5,808
24 " " 18 " "	14,520	42- " " 30 " "	4,976
30 " " 18 " "	11,616	48 " " 30 " "	4,356
36 " " 18 " "	9,680		

# Read This Before Ordering.

**YOUR NAME.** Post Office and State should be plainly written on every order, or other communication addressed to us. Write it **PLAINLY**, because what is familiar to you may be new to us.

**REMITTANCES**—At our risk by Registered Letter, Post Office Order, or Express Money Order. All Post Office orders should be made payable to B. F. Messick & Son, Allen, Md., Express Money orders on Eden, Md.

**OUR TERMS**—Cash in advance. Cash must accompany order.

**PACKING**—We personally supervise the packing of our plants, because we recognize this to be of vital importance. Good plants are often ruined by being poorly packed especially when destined for a shipment.

**SHIPPING**—We have had uniformly good luck in shipping plants by fast freight and would advise those who are able to order early to have plants shipped by freight. We guarantee safe arrival to destination everything ordered by Adams Express, with whom we have a 20 per cent discount.

**ORDER EARLY**—We would especially desire to emphasize the points in favor of ordering early. Plants weigh less, hence transportation expenses are less. They will live better when transplanted early, and they can be shipped with much less danger of damage. Our northern customers will find it greatly to their advantage to order early and hold the plants until they are ready for use. This can be done for from 5c to 10c per 1000, and one trial will convince anyone of its superior advantages.

**LOST ORDER**—Every order will be acknowledged by card and should you not hear from us in a few days, write us again and we will trace the matter up.

**WHAT WE SELL**—Our strawberry plants are well cleared of dead leaves and runners, carefully labeled, and neatly tied in bunches containing fifty two each, and are guaranteed to arrive in good condition, except when ordered by freight: We cannot become in any way responsible for plants shipped by freight.

We make no charges whatever for boxing and baling. Prices herein cover all cost to receiver except express or freight.

While we take every precaution to have all our stock strictly true to name, should any happen to prove otherwise, it is agreed that we are not to be held liable for more than the amount paid for said stock.

We, in no case substitute varieties unless so directed.

Certificate of inspection with every shipment.

Plants ready for shipment March 1st for the Southern trade and as late as May the 10th., to points North, but in any case it is always advisable to order early.

**REFERENCES**—That you may learn as to our responsibility, reliability and promptness, we refer you to the Savings Bank of Somerset, Princess Anne, Md., the Express and Railway Agent, Eden, Md., and the Postmaster of Allen, Md.

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Hamilton Co., Ohio, April 7, 1904,

Messrs. B. F. Messick & Son, Gentlemen:—Plants arrived in fine order and I am well pleased with them. Mr. Conklin, a neighbor probably will order some plants. He saw the plants I got and I advised him to order at once.

Yours truly, Geo. W. Nash.

Messrs. B. F. Messick & Son, Gentlemen:—Received plants in good shape.

Livingston Co., Mo., April 13 1904,  
A. J. Thorington.

## EXTRA EARLY VARIETIES.

**AUGUST LUTHER** is perfectly healthy, vigorous, fairly productive, of good size, nice shape, roundish, conical and slight necked, glossy red, pale at first, then darker. No green tips—"Introducer. Season about the same as Michels, grows excellent and makes lots of plants. Fruit fair size and excellent flavor.

**CRESCENT**—A noted moneymaker, and still retains its strong growing, vigorous habits and is very productive of medium sized berries. Grows on any soil and with little work. It has often been called the lazy man's berry. When beds are kept narrow berries are of larger size, bright red, good quality, and a good shipper.

**CLIMAX**—We have never fruited this variety and can only give description from others. It was originated by Mr. H. W. Graham, of Tyaskin, Md, a cross between the Hoffman and Bubach, two very noted parent plants. Mr. Graham claims them to be but about two days later than the Excelsior and last as long as the Gandy. He writes that he set 1100 plants in less than a quarter of an acre and shipped 105 60 quart crates of berries—6300 quarts, or about 20,200 quarts to the acre; he putting his rows five feet apart.



**EXCELSIOR**—The chief desire of growers of berries is to get a plant that is early and prolific. To them we recommend this variety, being a faultless grower, making a profusion of strong vigorous runners that root readily, has strong staminate blossoms that make every berry perfect. The numerous reports on this variety, where earliness is desired, speak of it as a most favorable variety. Ripening a day or two ahead of the Michels under like conditions and brings to maturity a large proportion of its crop the first few days of the season.

**MAYFLOWER**—Growing very much in resemblance to Michels Early, producing an abundance of berries and as early as August Luther and Johnson's Early.

**JESSIE**—Having had several calls for this variety we have added it to our list. We have not fruited it for several years, but being an old variety but little need to be said about it.

**MICHEL**S—Among the very earliest, medium in size. A great producer of berries and plants. Berries scarlet in color and rather sour. An old standard variety and needs no description.

**JOHNSON'S EARLY**—A berry quite as early as the Michels Early, large to very large, of excellent color, long, regular roundish shape, firm and an excellent shipper. Is exceptional for its fine looks and has proven, in this section to rank with the first as a seller. Reports are very favorable so give you the experience of one. "After another season's trial we think more of the Johnson's Early than of any other of the very early class; it is as healthy and vigorous as can be desired. Quite as productive as the August Luther, has longer fruit stalks, quite as large, as good in color and quality. Of regular roundish conical form, a very bright glossy red. A most excellent early sort.

**SALEM**—The prospects for the popularity of this variety among strawberry growers is most gratifying. Being an extra producer of plants growing from short jointed runners that root readily. One gratifying feature is that the dry weather does not seem to affect it in the least and all plants appear perfectly healthy. It ripens as early as the Michels Early and equally as productive and holds its own size and appearance the entire season.

## SECOND EARLY.

**LADY THOMPSON**—A very notable variety the world over and has succeeded quite well for the last several years. Wet seasons are somewhat against it, but considering the seldom wet seasons, we have great confidence in this variety. It is early, large, productive and a good shipper. Grows well in all soils but better adapted to rich loamy or sandy soil.

**MARIE**—Since 1892 the Marie has been steadily advancing to the front. Ripening with the Warfield, Bubach and Haverland; very productive. It is a pistillate variety and if properly fertilized every blossom makes a berry. Color crimson, uniform conical in shape and average large size. The quality is much better than the average.

**GIBSON**—A destined popular variety from its splendid growth and fine fruit. Foilage large and healthy, a shade darker than Bubach. Berries as large as Bubach, but regular and uniform in shape and remains of good size to the last picking. Its shipping and keeping qualities are so superior that it reaches the consumer in perfect condition, firm, brilliant in color and fresh in flavor. Try it.

**SUPERIOR**—Berries fair size and good color and productive. Very good grower and possessor of marked merits.

**WARFIELD**—To get the best fruit of this variety it must be thinned at least one half the runners that are made in order to give it sufficient room and sunlight. It is very productive, of medium size, highly colored and very firm berries.

**LADY GARRISON**—Is one of the fanciest market berries grown. It is a hardy grower, good yielder, perfect berry, good shipper, large size, fine flavor, medium sweet and dark red in color. They yield twice as much as Gandy and season of ripening is about four weeks making it a good berry for family use as well as for market. Everyone should include this variety in his collection.

**BUBACH (P.)**—An old standard variety. Bearing the test along the side of hundreds of varieties that have come and gone, but we yet find it among the leaders holding its own. The fruit is large and oft-times coxcombed. The plants have a dark foliage, stout and only set enough plants to give good sized berries.

**TUBBS**—While of a crescent type it holds its own through the season, producing its last picking equal to the first in size. A neighbor of ours says give him Tubbs and his reason is that he has gotten more money off of Tubbs than any berry he has fruited for the past ten years. It has a perfect blossom and is a vigorous grower. You should not fail to give it a trial

**HAYERLAND (P.)**—This variety is thoroughly productive, medium size, berries long, bright red and conical. An old variety and needs no description.

**DUFFS**—The plant is a faultless grower especially during a dry season when it is without a peer. It is very productive of bright red berries of medium size and very firm, quality poor. The fruit is long being somewhat depressed on two sides. Ripens about the same as Lady Thompson or midway between Michels and Brandywine. We fail to see anything in it to recommend it over others of the same season.

**BENNETTS**—It is a strong vigorous grower, making a fair number of runners that root readily. Believed by many successful growers to be the coming berry for commercial culturists. Introducer—"Bears good sized, regular berries of good quality in large quantities, color dark, red and firm fruit. Season second early."

## MIDSEASON.

**TENNESSEE PROLIFIC** produces abundantly and probably excels in number of quarts produced. A very good variety to plant with pistillate varieties. A most excellent grower, of perfect healthy foliage. Berries large, firm, good flavor, but rough in outline, many of the first being coxcombed. An excellent variety for careless culture.

**NICK OHMER**—This is one of the most popular varieties grown bearing a reputation for its size, color and firmness. The stems of the fruit grow very stout and hold the berries well up from the ground thus doing away with the necessity of mulching. The packages present a very attractive appearance being in size from large to very large and of a beautiful carmine color. It is a faultless grower and one of the best of the season which is a little later than the Bubach.

**PRIDE OF CUMBERLAND**—Bearing a striking resemblance to the Gandy Prize which it equals in every respect and surpasses in number of quarts produced. Fruit medium to large size, perfect shape, dark red color when fully ripe and will ship from one end of the country to the other.

**BISMARCK**—Resembles the Bubach in color, shape and flavor. Fruit is bright scarlet with no green tips: very firm for such a large berry. In good strong soil will give very pleasing results in quality and quantity.

**WM. BELT**—A good seller in fancy market and seems to be improving each season. Shows but little rust, of large size, a little flattened or coxcombed but very attractive when picked. Did very well this season. Its color is perfect.

**PARSON'S BEAUTY**—We are more pleased with this variety than when we last gave our experience with it. Our cover gives a photo of three quarts of this variety containing 47 berries each and the cut on the inner cover represents a picking of 82 48 quart crates of berries or 3936 quarts. 45 quarts to 53 yards. We had three acres in bearing and picked 21,120 quarts, an average of 7040 quarts per acre. This at first glance may not seem unusual unless you have kept an account of your yield, but this is above an average of more than four thousand quarts. One party from Missouri writes us that out of his order he does not think he lost three plants "and have made as fine growth as any plants I ever handled. My first order at your suggestion and if they prove to be as good to bear as they are to grow I shall be very much pleased with the Parsons." He further writes a description, "very dark green and glossy, no symptoms of rust, very rank growers." This is also the plant in our soil and climate and we feel sure of fruitful results. We also shipped during the month of August, to the northern markets, three hundred and fifty quarts. We have made the price within reach of all desiring plants and should your experience be as pleasing as ours you will be glad of the investment. It is a perfect blooming variety equally as large and very much of the same shape as Tennessee Prolific. A little darker in color. The plant is a large strong grower resembling the Bubach in some respects having a large broad leaf with a strong root.

**SEAFORD OR LLOYD**—A sure cropper, of the Bubach type. Large, a good bearer and holds up its size well. A good grower.

**MILLER**—The reports on this variety commend it for its large fruit and beautiful appearance that makes it an excellent seller, especially to the near by trade. It is very productive; beautiful bright red, light inside. The impression is that for its size, beauty of form and color and high flavor it is probably not equalled by any. It makes an immense foliage which protects the fruit. Fruit stems very strong and of good length.

**GLEN MARY**—Rather inclined to rust and at times thus impedes the growth of the foliage so that the fruit may not have sufficient protection from the hot suns. Makes some very large berries.

**SENATOR DUNLAP**—Ranking above the Haverland, Bubach and Clyde. Stands equal to Wm. Belt, Sample and Nick Ohmer. Moderate size, firm, good color, perfect shape and of most excellent flavor. Wonderfully productive and generally brings every berry to maturity. A very hardy grower and recommended to be able to hold its own under rough and tumble treatment.

**W. J. BRYAN**—Perfectly healthy and fruit very firm. Productive, of good size, glossy red berries of good shape. Considered one of the best by many careful growers.

**BARTON ECLIPSE**—Claimed by a few to do as well as the Haverland. Good grower and fine plants.

**ENHANCE**—A well known variety, vigorous grower, a strong healthy foliage, berries irregular in shape, medium to large and firm. A good pollenizer for late varieties.

**SAUNDERS**—We have never fruited this variety but it is said to be tremendously productive of very fine berries, of great firmness.

**LOVETTE**—Recognized by growers as one of the standard varieties. Plants are healthy, no rust and inherits its profuse plant making from its Crescent parentage. Spoken of as the tough variety never disappointing the grower. It has a perfect blossom and bears heavily, good color and quality.

## MEDIUM LATE.

**BRANDYWINE**—The size, carriage and appearance is a seldom combination, but the fruit is very large, heart shaped, firm, of good flavor and good color. It is a splendid grower, fair plant maker, very productive and lasts from midseason till nearly all other varieties are gone. It is an excellent pollenizer for pistillate varieties of nearly all seasons

**CLYDE**—During seasons of very hot suns, the only objection seems to be the lack of foliage to protect the fruit. It needs extra cultivation and fertilizer to enable the plant to make foilage enough to cover the fruit during a dry, hot season. The berries are as large as might be desired and grow in such clusters that the pickers all want to pick the Clyde, especially during the first few pickings.

**SAMPLE (P.)**—This berry is of such a nature that all growers should include it in their selection, yielding as many as Haverland and averages as large as the Bubach. The quality is fine and quite firm, continues a long time in fruit. The demand has grown doubtless faster than any other plant.

**NEW YORK**—An excellent all around berry. A prize winner, having won \$100 in gold over Glen Mary. Produces a tremendous crop of very large, bright red berries, that are about as firm as Bubach. Quality, every thing to be desired. Plants of immense size and faultless habits.

**KANSAS (P.)**—A very vigorous grower and perfectly healthy. Though a new variety we feel satisfied that it may be planted with confidence. Its fruit is brilliant crimson through and through, and has received unstinted praise from every horticulturist in the country, who has fruited it. The fruit makes a very handsome showing, being in size of fine, medium to large. Try it and you will be convinced of its popularity.

## VERY LATE.

**AROMA**—The intrinsic value as a heavy fruiter and pollenizer of late sorts has made the demand for this variety for the past few years, far greater than the supply. The plant shows no weakness of any kind. Fruit very large roundish conical glossy red, firm good shipper and succeeds on all soils. Try it.

**KLONDYKE**—Wonderful record, for quantity, produced from its home in Massachusetts. Very late berry, producing good crops of very fine, large, firm fruit of good shape and quality. Not quite so large as Gandy and hardly as fine in appearance but is unquestionably much freer to bear. A good reliable berry for late crop.

**GANDY PRIZE**—While among the very latest, it has proven itself to be among the first in productiveness, shape and shipping qualities. The variety is well known and when it succeeds well it is one of the best paying sorts.

**SUNSHINE**—Immensely productive, fruit extraordinary size, firm somewhat misshaped, quality fair. Makes but a limited number of plants, but a mammoth plant that appears perfectly healthy. Season very late.

## B. F. Messick & Son's Order Sheet.

Name of Buyer.....

Postoffice.....County.....

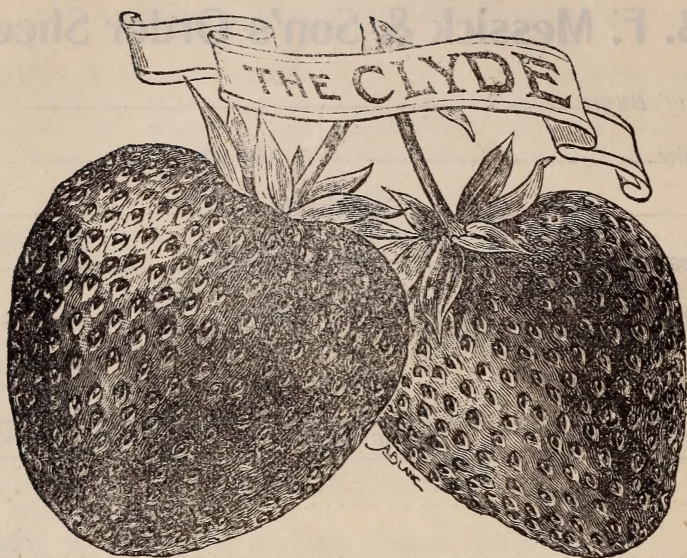
State.....Express Office.....

Express Co.....Freight Station.....

Ship by.....On or about.....  
(Mail Express or Freight)

Date of Order.....190....

[illegible]



## Read These Testimonials.

Messrs. B. F. Messick & Son, Gentlemen:—Please find enclosed Money Order for \$40.5 for which ship by Adams Express April 1st the following strawberry plants.

Dade Co., Mo., Feb. 12, 1901.

April 7, 1901.

Duplicate order. Wire if can express immediately. Will mail draft

Please find enclosed P. O. M. O. for \$40.95 for which please ship by Adams Express at once following strawberry plants.

April 9th., 1901.

Confirming my telegram of April 8th.

Yours truly,

B. F. Messick & Son.

Messrs. B. F. Messick & Son, Gentlemen:—Enclosed please find five (\$5.00) dollars for which please send me the following strawberry plants by Express.

Hamilton Co., Ohio, April 7, 1901.

Chas. Conklin.

Messrs. B. F. Messick & Son, Gentlemen:—Plants received are rooted as well as your catalogue cuts show. This is so unusual that I feel called upon to thank you.

Ulster Co., N. Y., Apr. 7 1901.

Ulsterdorf Farms.

Messrs. B. F. Messick & Son, Gentlemen:—I received your plants all right, they were in good condition. Hope I can favor you next year. I thank you for your kind attention.

Hamilton Co., Ohio, March 28, 1901.

Yours truly,

Jacob Alfing.

Messrs. B. F. Messick & Son, Gentlemen:—The strawberry plants you started on the 1st came yesterday, all in good condition and a good lot of plants. You have my thanks.

Hancock Co., Ohio, April 6, 1901.

Yours truly,

Solon P. Powell

Messrs. B. F. Messick & Son, Gentlemen:—Plants received on Tuesday 29th., in good fix, planted them on Thursday.

Sumter Co., Ga., April 2, 1901.

Truly Yours,

S. M. Gordy.

Messrs. B. F. Messick & Son, Gentlemen:—The plants arrived in fine order, and are all set out. We thank you many times for the kindness, and we expect to get a good crop later.

Erie Co., N. Y., May 14, 1901.

B. D. Rogers' Sons

Messrs. B. F. Messick & Son, Gentlemen:—Yours received. Will say I never received plants in better condition. I am well pleased and I did not have to order any plants this season except those I ordered of you. I have tried about all except some new kinds. Have been in the fruit business off and on since boyhood days, am past sixty now, but should I need a stock of berries I will write you as I have been dealt with in an honorable way. I will report how Parsons do later.

Newton Co., Mo., March 6, 1901.

Lewis Childress.

# Prices of Strawberry Plants.

	12 by mail prepaid.	100 by mail prepaid.	100 by ex. not paid.	1000 by ex. not paid.
Aroma.....	\$ .25	\$ .50	\$.30	\$1.75
Brandywine.....	25	50	30	1 75
Bartons Eclipse.....	25	50	30	2 00
Bubach.....	30	60	40	2 25
Bismarck.....	25	50	30	1 75
Challenge.....	25	50	30	2 00
Crescent.....	25	50	30	1 75
Climax.....	25	50	30	2 00
Clyde.....	25	50	30	2 00
Enhance.....	25	50	30	1 75
Excelsior.....	25	50	30	1 75
Gibson.....	25	50	30	1 75
Glen Mary.....	25	50	30	2 00
Gandy.....	25	50	30	1 75
Haverland (P).....	25	50	30	1 75
Johnsons E.....	25	50	30	1 75
Jessie.....	25	50	30	2 00
Kansas (P).....	25	50	30	2 00
Lady Thompson.....	25	50	30	1 75
Lovette.....	25	50	30	2 00
Lady Garrison.....	25	50	30	1 75
Marshall.....	30	60	40	2 25
Monitor.....	25	50	30	2 00
Marie.....	25	50	30	2 00
Michels Early.....	25	50	30	1 50
New York.....	30	60	40	2 25
Nick Ohmer.....	25	50	30	2 00
Parsons.....	25	50	30	1 75
Pride of Cumberland.....	25	50	30	2 00
Sample.....	25	50	30	2 00
Sanders.....	25	50	30	2 00
Senator Dunlap.....	25	50	30	1 75
Sharpless.....	30	60	40	2 25
Superior.....	25	50	30	2 00
Texas.....	25	50	30	1 75
Tennessee Prolific.....	25	50	30	1 75
Wm. Belt.....	25	50	30	2 00
Warfield.....	25	50	30	2 00

Varieties marked (P) are pistillate varieties and must have some kind with a perfect blossom planted near them.

500 will be supplied at the thousand rate where the total number ordered amounts to 1000 or more.

We will allow the following discount.

On lots of 5000 or more 5 per cent.

“ “ “ 10,000 “ 10 “ “

10 per cent is the largest discount we can allow in any case, and in no case will the discount be allowed unless the order amounts to the quantity prescribed for each rebate.



STATE HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

DEPARTMENTS OF ENTOMOLOGY  
AND  
VEGETABLE PATHOLOGY.

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE  
AND EXPERIMENT STATION.



R. W. SILVESTER,  
PRESIDENT AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

PROF. T. B. SYMONS,  
STATE ENTOMOLOGIST.

PROF. J. B. S. NORTON,  
STATE PATHOLOGIST.

## CERTIFICATE OF NURSERY INSPECTION.

No. 15

### To Whom It May Concern:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY That on the 3 day of September 1904  
we examined the Nursery Stock of B. D. Musick & Son  
growing in their nurseries at Allen  
County of Wicomico, State of Maryland, in accordance with the laws of  
Maryland, 1898, Chapter 289, Section 58, and that said nurseries and premises are apparently free,  
so far as can be determined by inspection, from the San Jose Scale, Peach Yellows, Pear Blight and  
other dangerously injurious insect pests and plant diseases.

This certificate is invalid after August 1st, 1905, and does not include  
nursery stock not grown within this State, unless such stock is previously covered by certificate and  
accepted by the State Entomologist and State Pathologist.

Thomas B. Symons  
State Entomologist.

J. B. Norton  
State Pathologist.

Md. Sept 2nd 1904